

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claims 1 and 32 have been amended. Claims 53-74 were cancelled in a previous Office Action Response and the Examiner has withdrawn claims 4-6, 8, 13-15, and 17-52. For the Examiner's convenience, a complete listing of claims and status indicators is set forth below. This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

1. (currently amended) A mechanical linkage, comprising:
an elongated extruded member comprising a structural cross-section and a linkage end, wherein the structural cross-section is configured to support the linkage end under a mechanical load and wherein dimensions of the structural cross-section are substantially constant in a direction transverse to the structural cross-section.
2. (original) The mechanical linkage of claim 1, wherein the linkage end comprises an integral joint member formed by the structural cross-section.
3. (original) The mechanical linkage of claim 1, wherein the linkage end comprises an integral socket formed by the structural cross-section.
4. (withdrawn) The mechanical linkage of claim 3, wherein the integral socket comprises an elastomeric joint.
5. (withdrawn) The mechanical linkage of claim 3, wherein the integral socket comprises a bushing.
6. (withdrawn) The mechanical linkage of claim 3, wherein the integral socket comprises a grommet.

7. (original) The mechanical linkage of claim 3, wherein the integral socket has a square geometry.

8. (withdrawn) The mechanical linkage of claim 3, wherein the integral socket has a geometry characterized by a plurality of superimposed squares.

9. (original) The mechanical linkage of claim 3, comprising a desired device having a modular connector disposed in the integral socket.

10. (original) The mechanical linkage of claim 9, wherein the desired device is a joint member.

11. (original) The mechanical linkage of claim 10, wherein the joint member comprises a molded ball.

12. (original) The mechanical linkage of claim 10, wherein the elongated extruded member comprises a metal and the joint member comprises an elastomeric material.

13. (withdrawn) The mechanical linkage of claim 9, wherein the desired device comprises a modular socket device having a desired socket geometry.

14. (withdrawn) The mechanical linkage of claim 13, wherein the desired socket geometry has an enclosed form.

15. (withdrawn) The mechanical linkage of claim 13, wherein the desired socket geometry has an open form.

16. (original) The mechanical linkage of claim 1, wherein the elongated extruded member is extruded lengthwise.

17. (withdrawn) The mechanical linkage of claim 16, wherein the linkage end is formed by the structural cross-section at both lengthwise ends of the elongated extruded member.

18. (withdrawn) The mechanical linkage of claim 17, wherein the linkage end comprises an integral joint.

19. (withdrawn) The mechanical linkage of claim 17, wherein the linkage end comprises an integral socket.

20. (withdrawn) The mechanical linkage of claim 17, comprising modular devices disposed in the linkage end at both lengthwise ends of the elongated extruded member.

21. (withdrawn) The mechanical linkage of claim 20, wherein the modular devices comprise an elastomeric joint.

22. (withdrawn) The mechanical linkage of claim 20, wherein the modular devices comprise a socket device.

23. (withdrawn) The mechanical linkage of claim 20, wherein the modular devices are positioned in different angular orientations.

24. (withdrawn) The mechanical linkage of claim 1, wherein the elongated extruded member is extruded crosswise.

25. (withdrawn) The mechanical linkage of claim 24, wherein the linkage end is formed by the structural cross-section at both lengthwise ends of the elongated extruded member.

26. (withdrawn) The mechanical linkage of claim 25, wherein the elongated extruded member is twisted about a lengthwise axis to provide a desired angle between the lengthwise ends.

27. (withdrawn) The mechanical linkage of claim 25, wherein the linkage end comprises an integral joint structure.

28. (withdrawn) The mechanical linkage of claim 25, wherein the linkage end comprises an integral socket.

29. (withdrawn) The mechanical linkage of claim 28, comprising modular devices disposed in the integral sockets at both lengthwise ends of the elongated extruded member.

30. (withdrawn) The mechanical linkage of claim 29, wherein at least one of the modular devices comprises an elastomeric joint.

31. (withdrawn) The mechanical linkage of claim 29, wherein at least one of the modular devices comprise a socket device.

32. (withdrawn/currently amended) A modular linkage system, comprising:

an extruded arm comprising first and second linkage sockets at opposite lengthwise ends of the extruded arm, wherein the first and second linkage sockets have a geometry configured for multi-angular orientations and wherein a dimension of the extruded arm is substantially constant in a direction along the extruded arm.

33. (withdrawn) The modular linkage system of claim 32, wherein at least one socket of the first and second linkage sockets comprises an integral joint structure.

34. (withdrawn) The modular linkage system of claim 33, wherein the integral joint structure comprises an elastomeric member.

35. (withdrawn) The modular linkage system of claim 32, wherein at least one socket of the first and second linkage sockets extends crosswise through the extruded arm.

36. (withdrawn) The modular linkage system of claim 32, wherein at least one socket of the first and second linkage sockets extends lengthwise through at least a portion of the extruded arm.

37. (withdrawn) The modular linkage system of claim 32, comprising a socket device having a modular connector end disposed in at least one socket of the first and second linkage sockets.

38. (withdrawn) The modular linkage system of claim 32, comprising a joint structure disposed in at least one socket of the first and second linkage sockets.

39. (withdrawn) The modular linkage system of claim 38, wherein the joint structure comprises an elastomeric joint member.

40. (withdrawn) The modular linkage system of claim 32, wherein the extruded arm is extruded lengthwise.

41. (withdrawn) The modular linkage system of claim 40, wherein the extruded arm comprises a square extruded cross-section.

42. (withdrawn) The modular linkage system of claim 40, wherein the extruded arm comprises an extruded cross-section, which is geometrically characterized by a plurality of superimposed squares.

43. (withdrawn) The modular linkage system of claim 40, wherein the first and second linkage sockets comprise an operable socket device.

44. (withdrawn) The modular linkage system of claim 40, comprising a modular device disposed in at least one socket of the first and second linkage sockets.

45. (withdrawn) The modular linkage system of claim 44, wherein the modular device comprises a mechanical joint assembly comprising an elastomeric member.

46. (withdrawn) The modular linkage system of claim 44, wherein the modular device comprises an operable socket device.

47. (withdrawn) The modular linkage system of claim 44, comprising an opposite modular device disposed in a remaining socket of the first and second linkage sockets, wherein the modular device and opposite modular device are positioned in different angular orientations.

48. (withdrawn) The modular linkage system of claim 32, wherein the extruded arm is extruded crosswise.

49. (withdrawn) The modular linkage system of claim 48, wherein the extruded arm comprises a twisted portion to position the first and second linkage sockets at different angular orientations.

50. (withdrawn) The modular linkage system of claim 48, wherein at least one of the first and second linkage sockets comprises an integral socket device having a polygonal receptacle.

51. (withdrawn) The modular linkage system of claim 48, wherein at least one of the first and second linkage sockets comprises a mechanical joint assembly.

52. (withdrawn) The modular linkage system of claim 51, wherein the mechanical joint assembly comprises an elastomeric member.

Claims 53-74 (cancelled).